Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Areas

In October 1988, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked 251 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by preliminary unemployment rates. Historically, the Washington Area's jobless rate remains relatively unchanged between September and October.

For the three previous months (July, August, and September) the rate held steady at 2.9 percent. The October rate at 3.0 percent was the twenty-fourth lowest of all 251 areas reporting. A year ago, the rate was 2.9 percent.

Comparing the Washington Area with other large metropolitan areas nationwide, the Washington Area's rate at 3.0 percent was the second lowest of all the metropolitan areas. The Boston Area rate at 2.5 percent was the lowest. A year ago, the Boston rate was 2.3 percent. The Richmond-Petersburg Area, 110 miles to the south of Washington, recorded an October rate of 3.4 percent down from 3.5 percent in September. The Baltimore Area, only 35 miles north of Washington, posted a 5.2 percent jobless rate up from 4.6 percent in September. A year ago, Baltimore's rate also was 4.2 percent.

Of the 251 metropolitan areas for which October data are available, 46 had over-the-year decreases in their unemployment rate of 1 percentage point or more, and eight had increases of that magnitude. Eighty areas had rates below 4 percent, while 25 had rates of 8 percent or higher.

Unemployment Rates in Selected Major Metropolitan Statistical Areas*

MSA	October 1988*	October 1987
1. Boston, MA	2.5	2.3
2. Washington, D.C.	**3.0**	**2.9**
3. San Francisco, CA	3.2	3.6
4. Milwaukee, WI	3.2	4.3
5. Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	3.4	3.8
6. Richmond-Petersburg, VA	3.4	3.7
7. Newark, NJ	3.7	4.0
8. San Diego, CA	4.0	4.6
9. Philadelphia, PA	4.2	4.2
10. Oakland, CA	4.2	4.7
11. Salt Lake City, UT	4.2	5.0
12. Nashville, TN	4.3	4.3
13. Portland, OR	4.3	4.6
14. Indianapolis, IN	4.3	4.8
15. Los Angeles, CA	4.3	5.9
16. Columbus, OH	4.5	4.7
17. Cincinnati, OH	4.5	5.5
18. Seattle, WA	4.5	5.8
19. New York, NY	4.6	5.3
20. Atlanta, GA	4.6	4.4
21. Buffalo, NY	4.7	5.6
22. Cleveland, OH	4.8	5.2
23. Sacramento, CA	4.8	5.3
24. Kansas City, MO	4.9	5.1
25. Memphis, TN	5.1	5.2
26. Baltimore, MD	5.2	4.2
27. Miami, FL	5.2	5.5
28. Louisville, KY	5.2	6.0
29. Oklahoma City, OK	5.3	5.5
30. Denver, CO	5.4	6.3
31. Birmingham, AL	5.5	5.9
32. Dallas, TX	5.6	5.8
33. Pittsburgh, PA	5.6	6.1
34. Chicago, IL	5.7	5.8
35. Jackson, MI	5.7	5.9
36. Phoenix, AR	5.7	4.8
37. Montgomery, AL	5.7	6.0
38. St. Louis, MO	6.1	6.3
39. Houston, TX	6.2	7.6
40. Detroit, MI	6.8	7.1
41. New Orleans, LA	8.6	8.8

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

States

When the District of Columbia (with an October preliminary unemployment rate of 4.8 percent) was ranked with the 50 States, the District had the twenty-sixth lowest jobless rate in the country. This was two notches below the September standing. Maryland's rate at 4.6 percent was up from the 4.2 percent posted in July, August and September. Virginia's rate rose from 3.8 percent to 4.0 percent. Maryland and Virginia ranked twenty-eighth and thirty-seventh, respectively, in the standing of the 51 jurisdictions. A year ago, Maryland's and Virginia's rates were 3.8 percent and 3.9 percent, respectively.

Seven states and the District of Columbia reported over-the-year declines of 1 percentage point or more in their unemployment rate. The largest were in Idaho (1.6 percentage points) and Washington (1.5 points). Four states had over-the-year increases exceeding 0.5 percentage point—Arizona, Maryland, North Dakota, and South Dakota. About half of the states had unemployment rates within 1 percentage point of the national rate (4 to 6 percent).

Fourteen states had October unemployment rates below 4 percent. Three New England states—Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont tied for the nation's lowest rate—2.3 percent. Four states had rates of 8 percent or more—Louisiana (9.5 percent), West Virginia (8.8 percent), Alaska (8.4 percent), and Mississippi (8.0 percent).

Cities

In comparison with the 25 selected central cities, the District of Columbia (with an October preliminary rate of 4.8 percent) had the fifth lowest jobless rate. This was the same as the September standing. In October, the average unemployment rate of all 26 cities was 6.5 percent down from 6.6 percent in September. There were eight cities including the District of Columbia with rates at 6 percent or below. Baltimore's rate at 7.9 percent was up from 7.0 percent posted in September. In October 1987, the Baltimore rate was 6.6 percent.

Detroit continues to be the only city reporting a double digit unemployment rate, 10.1 percent. The next highest rates were posted in New Orleans, Gary, and St. Louis, 9.4, 9.2, and 9.0 percent, respectively. Eight cities (Boston, San Francisco, Milwaukee, Salt Lake City, the District of Columbia, New York, Columbus, and Los Angeles, recorded jobless rates between 3 percent and 5 percent.

Of the 26 selected central cities, twenty reported over-the-year declines, with the largest being posted by Gary 3.1 percent. Only 4 cities had over-the-year increases with the largest recorded in Baltimore, 1.3 percent. Atlanta's and Philadelphia's rates were unchanged over the year.

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Unemployment Rates by State, October 1988

Unemployment Rates in Selected Cities*

MSA	October	
	1988*	1987
1. Boston, MA	3.1	2.9
2. San Francisco, CA	3.9	4.3
3. Milwaukee, WI	4.2	5.9
4. Salt Lake City, UT	4.5	5.4
5. District of Columbia	**4.6**	**5.8**
6. Columbus, OH	4.9	5.2
7. New York, NY	4.9	5.8
8. Los Angeles, CA	4.9	6.6
9. Pittsburgh, PA	5.1	5.8
10. Cincinnati, OH	5.5	6.8
11. Philadelphia, PA	6.0	6.0
12. Miami, FL	6.4	6.8
13. Dallas, TX	6.5	6.7
14. Houston, TX	6.6	8.1
15. Buffalo, NY	6.7	7.9
16. Atlanta, GA	6.8	6.8
17. Chicago, IL	7.4	7.5
18. Dayton, OH	7.6	7.4
19. Birmingham, AL	7.6	8.3
20. Cleveland, OH	7.7	8.0
21. Baltimore, MD	7.9	6.6
22. Newark, NJ	7.9	8.1
23. St. Louis, MO	9.0	9.4
24. Gary, IN	9.2	12.3
25. New Orleans, LA	9.4	9.3
26. Detroit, MI	10.1	10.6

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

Unemployment Insurance Activities November 1988

During the month of November 1988, the District of Columbia processed 3,010 unemployment compensation initial claims for former workers in the City. This was 4 percent above the October claims load. It is slightly below the 3,076 average monthly claims load for this year to date.

The number of weeks claimed and weeks actually compensated increased 9 and 13 percents, respectively, from last month. The direction for these measures is the same as the monthly movement in initial claims for the last two months. Following the same pattern, the total benefit outlay, at $6.0 million, is 13 percent above last month. The average weekly payout for this month is slightly above October, but the increase in the volume of weeks actually compensated brought the total November outlay above the October level. Compared to November 1987, the average weekly benefit amount increased six percent in the current month.

The benefit outlay for the first eleven months of 1988 is $67.5 million, accounting for 366,840 idle weeks actually compensated. This compares to $69.0 million for the same period in 1987. This number of weeks actually compensated totalled 895,520 last year. The decrease in outlay this year is attributable to the drop in the number of weeks compensated. The higher average weekly benefit amount for the eleven-month period in 1988 ($184.04 compared to $174.51 in 1987) did not offset the decline in workload. The 1988 increase in the average payout is due primarily to a higher ($268) maximum benefit scale in 1988, compared to the $250 scale effective in 1987.

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Department of Employment Services
Government of the District of Columbia
Marion Barry Jr., Mayor

Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics
(Regular Programs)
District of Columbia
November 1988

	Nov. 1988	Oct. 1988	Nov. 1987	% Change From Oct. 1988	% Change From Nov. 1987
State UI Program a/					
Initial Claims Taken	2,877	2,745	2,716	+4.8	+5.9
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	30,692	28,203	28,859	+8.8	+6.4
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	29,894	26,442	27,073	+13.1	+10.4
Total Benefits Paid	$5,480,492	$4,863,759	$4,694,820	+12.7	+16.7
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$183.33	$183.94	$173.41	-0.3	+5.7
Number of First Payments	1,431	1,338	1,383	+7.0	+3.5
Number of Final Payments	854	756	731	+13.0	+16.8
Total Beneficiaries	7,839	7,780	7,782	+0.8	+0.7
Federal Program b/					
Initial Claims Taken	101	127	90	-20.5	+12.2
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	2,150	2,032	2,113	+5.8	+1.8
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	2,214	1,909	1,837	+16.0	-20.5
Total Benefits Paid	$460,367	$403,229	$356,542	+14.2	+29.1
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$207.93	$211.23	$194.09	-1.6	+7.1
Number of First Payments	106	99	98	+7.1	+8.2
Number of Final Payments	60	70	44	-14.3	+36.4
Total Beneficiaries	555	547	524	+1.5	+5.9
Ex-Servicepersons Program c/					
Initial Claims Taken	32	25	44	+28.0	-27.3
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	308	300	375	+2.7	-17.9
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	249	242	281	+2.9	-11.4
Total Benefits Paid	$49,542	$47,971	$53,249	+3.3	-7.0
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$198.96	$198.23	$189.50	+0.4	+5.0
Number of First Payments	24	17	23	+41.2	+4.3
Number of Final Payments	18	21	23	-14.3	-21.7
Total Beneficiaries	79	80	88	-1.3	-10.2
Total—All Programs a/					
Initial Claims Taken	3,010	2,897	2,850	+3.9	+5.6
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	33,150	30,535	31,347	+8.6	+5.8
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	32,357	28,593	29,191	+13.2	+10.8
Total Benefits Paid	$5,990,401	$5,314,959	$5,104,611	+12.7	+17.4
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$185.13	$185.88	$174.87	-0.4	+5.9
Number of First Payments	1,561	1,454	1,504	+7.4	+3.9
Number of Final Payments	932	847	798	+10.0	+16.8
Total Beneficiaries	8,473	8,407	8,394	+0.8	+0.9

a. Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), and/or Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).
b. Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).
c. No joint claims.

The Washington, D.C. Area Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Statistical Area rose 0.3 percent during the 2-months ended in November to a level of 123.2 (1982-84=100). For the 12-month period ended in November, the CPI-U rose 4.0 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) rose 0.2 percent from September to November. The November level of 122.6 (1982-84=100) was 4.0 percent higher than the index in November 1987.

In November, the local CPI-U index and the national CPI-U index were just about equal for two months ago, and over-the-year changes.

Comparing the local CPI-U with the U.S. city average over the two-month period, prices of transportation, medical care, other goods and services, and energy tended to increase relatively faster locally. On the other hand, prices of housing, apparel and upkeep, and entertainment tended to increase relatively faster nationally. Food and beverage was just about equal.

Washington, D.C.
Area Consumer Price Index [a/]
(All Urban Consumers—CPI-U)

	November 1988	Percent Change 2 months Ago	Percent Change Year Ago
All Items			
U.S.	120.3	+0.4	+4.2
Washington Area	123.2	+0.3	+4.0
Expenditure Category			
Food & Beverage	121.1	-0.2	+5.5
Housing	124.4	-0.7	+2.8
Apparel & Upkeep	131.0	+0.2	+6.1
Transportation	111.2	+2.6	+3.8
Medical Care	140.2	+1.6	+5.9
Entertainment	123.4	-0.6	+0.6
Other Goods & Services	142.9	+1.9	+7.1
Special Index:			
Energy b/	89.8	-1.3	+1.6

a. 1982-84=100, except as noted.

b. June 1978=100

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; table prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff.

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Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Total Manufacturing Average Weekly Earnings in the Metropolitan Area for the month of November 1988 declined 25 cents. The Average Weekly Hours dropped .3 hour, as the Average Hourly Earnings rose 8 cents.

In the Durable Goods Sector, Stone, Clay and Glass Products reflects overtime being worked. The Weekly Earnings rose $15.49 and Weekly Hours increased .6 hour. Hourly Earnings were up 2 cents. Electric Machinery Equipment and Supplies had an increase in the proportion of higher paid employees. Weekly Earnings rose $4.66, Weekly Hours remained the same at 38.8, as Hourly Earnings increased 12 cents.

In the Non-Durable Goods Sector, Food and Kindred Products' Weekly Earnings were down $13.54, and Weekly Hours dropped 2.3 hours. Hourly Earnings increased 31 cents, due to an increase in the proportion of higher paid employees. Less overtime being worked in Printing and Publishing caused the Weekly Earnings to drop $18.07. Weekly Hours decreased .1 hour with Hourly Earnings declining 35 cents an hour.

Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing
Washington Metropolitan Area
November 1988

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Nov. 1988	Oct. 1988	Nov. 1987	Nov. 1988	Oct. 1988	Nov. 1987	Nov. 1988	Oct. 1988	Nov. 1987
Total Manufacturing	454.61	454.86	423.50	39.6	39.9	38.5	11.48	11.40	11.00
Durable Goods	453.60	440.79	409.24	42.0	41.9	40.2	10.80	10.52	10.18
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	554.69	539.20	413.95	48.7	48.1	39.2	11.39	11.21	10.56
Electric Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	461.72	457.06	438.45	38.8	38.8	40.9	11.90	11.78	10.72
Other Durable Goods	432.00	416.02	387.60	42.9	42.8	40.0	10.07	9.72	9.69
Non-Durable Goods	457.07	466.24	434.12	37.9	38.5	37.2	12.06	12.11	11.67
Food & Kindred Products	425.26	438.80	448.53	37.7	40.0	38.6	11.28	10.97	11.62
Printing & Publishing	481.06	499.13	461.52	35.9	36.3	36.0	13.40	13.75	12.82
Other Non-Durable Goods	392.47	370.50	342.05	44.7	44.8	40.1	8.78	8.27	8.53
Total Production Workers		Nov. '88 42,000			Oct. '88 41,200			Nov. '87 43,400	

Note: Data reflects Revision to 1987 Benchmark.

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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR DECEMBER 1988 — MARCH 1989

D.C. Unemployment Rate Unchanged in December—4.5%

Employment Status of District Residents Improves in 1988

Labor Force

The District

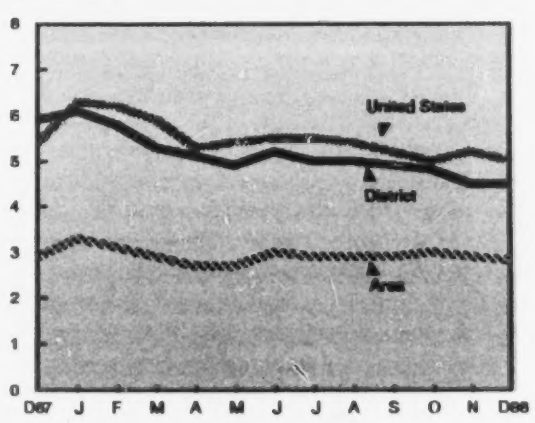
Unemployment in the District during December 1988 averaged 4.5% of the labor force—unchanged from November. The low December rate assures that the District will register the fifth consecutive year of falling unemployment—down from the record high set in 1983 of 11.3 percent. The low December rate also means that 1988 will produce the lowest annual unemployment rate since the 3.6 percent recorded in 1971. Based on monthly estimates published for the year, the annual rate for all of 1988 should average 5.1 percent. The final benchmarked rate for the year will be published in April. It is not expected to change significantly from the estimated 5.1 percent.

District Unemployment Rates
1983-1988
(Annual Averages—Percent)

1983	11.7
1984	9.0
1985	8.4
1986	7.7
1987	6.3
1988*	5.1

*Preliminary-unbenchmarked

Unemployment Rates
December 1987 - December 1988



The December unadjusted unemployment rate for all civilian workers in the United States

Continued on page 3

Government of the District of Columbia
Marion Barry, Jr., Mayor

Department of Employment Services
F. Alexis H. Roberson
Director

The Department of Employment Services

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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR DECEMBER 1988 MARCH 1989

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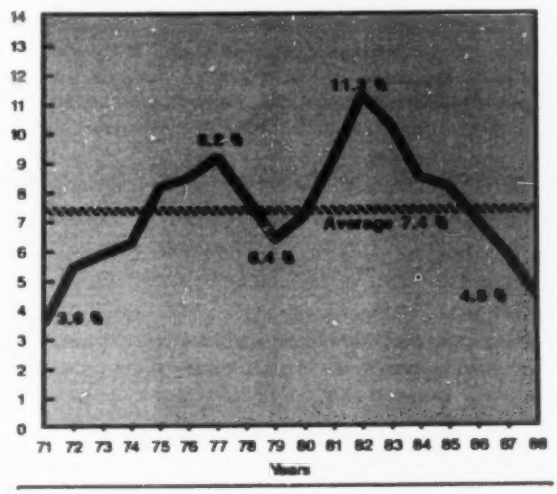
Inquiries and requests for labor market information may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by calling: (202) 639-1641 or 639-1642.

Continued from page 1

was 5.0 percent. For all twelve months of 1988 the District's rate has been below that of the nation.

Between October and November, the number of residents in the District's labor force declined by 3,900 persons. This probably represents the beginning of a traditional seasonal contraction of the work force from the fall employment expansion for the holiday period. Of the 3,900 people withdrawing from the labor force, most (3,700) came directly from employer payrolls and only 200 from the unemployment rolls. Because of the nature of the December's labor force movements, the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 4.5 percent.

District Unemployment Rates In the Month of December
1971 - 1988



Compared to December 1987, however, the labor force status of District residents is much improved. In December 1988, there were 6,000 more residents with jobs than a year earlier—a 1.9 percent increase. This represents the most District residents working (321,200) in the month of December since December 1979, when 325,600 were reported on employer payrolls. On the other side of the labor market balance sheet, the number of residents seeking work (15,000) declined over the year by 4,700 jobless workers—**nearly a 24 percent decrease.** This was the smallest December unemployment level since 1971 when 12,700 were unemployed. As a result the unemployment rate in the District declined a significant 1.4 percentage point between December 1987 and December 1988. Over the year, however, the District labor force only increased by a very marginal 0.4 percent, thus, contributing to the tightness in the Area's labor supply.

The Area & Suburbs

Similar to the District, the suburban labor force also contracted in December by 13,600 workers. Most (10,600) of the suburban labor force decline came directly from payrolls, while an additional 3,000 came from the suburban unemployment roster. These labor force adjust-

Continued on page 4

Unemployment Rates in the Washington, D.C., MSA by City and County

	Dec. a/ 1988	Nov. b/ 1988	Dec. 1987
District of Columbia	4.5	4.5	5.9
Calvert County	4.0	4.1	4.0
Prince Georges County	3.8	4.0	3.2
Frederick County	3.0	2.9	2.9
Charles County	2.8	3.2	3.0
Montgomery County	2.6	2.7	2.2
Stafford County	2.0	2.2	2.4
Alexandria City	2.0	2.1	2.1
Falls Church City	1.9	1.8	1.9
Prince William County	1.8	2.0	2.2
Fairfax City	1.8	1.9	1.6
Manassas City	1.8	2.1	1.5
Arlington County	1.8	1.9	1.8
Fairfax County	1.7	1.9	1.7
Loudoun County	1.6	1.6	1.4
Manassas Park City	1.5	1.5	1.3

a/ Preliminary.
b/ Revised.

SOURCE: The Department of Employment Services, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the Virginia Employment Commission.

Continued from page 3

Employment Status for the Civilian Population
District of Columbia, Suburban Ring, and the Washington, D.C. MSA
December 1988[a/]

	Dec. b/ 1988	Nov. c/ 1988	Dec. d/ 1987	Nov. d/ 1987	Net Change From Nov. 1988	Net Change From Dec. 1987
Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	336,200	340,100	334,900	332,000	-3,900	1,300
Total Employed	321,200	324,900	315,200	312,700	-3,700	6,000
Total Unemployed	15,000	15,200	19,700	19,300	-200	-4,700
Unemployment Rate e/	4.5	4.5	5.9	5.8	———	-1.4
Suburban Ring						
Civilian Labor Force	1,891,100	1,904,700	1,817,600	1,809,200	-13,600	73,500
Total Employed	1,843,700	1,854,300	1,775,400	1,765,700	-10,600	68,300
Total Unemployed	47,400	50,400	42,200	43,400	-3,000	5,200
Unemployment Rate e/	2.5	2.6	2.3	2.4	-0.1	0.2
Washington, D.C. MSA						
Civilian Labor Force	2,227,300	2,244,800	2,152,500	2,141,200	-17,500	74,800
Total Employed	2,164,900	2,179,200	2,090,600	2,078,400	-14,300	74,300
Total Unemployed	62,400	65,600	61,900	62,700	-3,200	500
Unemployment Rate e	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.9	-0.1	-0.1

a Detail may not add to the totals due to independent rounding. b. Preliminary. c. Revised.
d. Data reflects Benchmark Revisions. e. Seasonally unadjusted.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington Metropolitan Area includes the District of Columbia; the Virginia cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; the Virginia Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun, and Stafford; and the Maryland Counties of Montgomery, Prince Georges, Charles, Frederick, and Calvert.

Source: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

ments produced a small decline in the suburban unemployment rate equal to one-tenth of a percentage point. The suburban rate for December slipped to a low of 2.5 percent.

Over the year (December 1987 to December 1988), the suburban labor market produced a very healthy 4.2 percent growth in new workers adding 73,500 people to the labor force. Nine of every 10 of these new workers found employment. Still over the year, the suburban pool of unemployed workers increased by 5,200 workers and the suburban unemployment rate rose from 2.3 percent of the labor force to 2.5 percent. By most standards, a statistical level signaling tightness in the supply of labor.

Reflecting labor market movements both in the District and the suburbs, the December Area labor force showed a seasonal contraction in the labor supply amounting to a loss of 17,500 workers, most of whom came directly from payrolls. This resulted in a decline in the Area unemployment rate from 2.9 percent in November to 2.8 percent in December.

Continued on page 5

Labor Force Distribution
Washington Metropolitan Area
December 1987 & December 1988

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed
		DECEMBER 1988	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	15.1	14.8	24.0
Suburbs	84.9	85.2	76.0
		DECEMBER 1987	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	15.6	15.1	31.8
Suburbs	84.4	84.9	68.2

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

The number of individuals receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits totaled 8,533 in December 1988—up 98 claimants from November. In December, 53 percent of all UI recipients were males. Occupationally, clerical and sales and professional, technical and managerial workers accounted for 26% of the total claimants. Service workers ranked third accounting for 21 percent of the claimants.

The median duration of the current spell of insured unemployment was 9.5 weeks for all claimants in December down from 10.2 weeks reported in November. Over the month, the duration for males decreased from 10.0 weeks to 9.2 weeks, while that for females also decreased from 10.3 weeks to 9.8 weeks. In December 1987, the average duration for males was 9.3 weeks and 9.5 for females.

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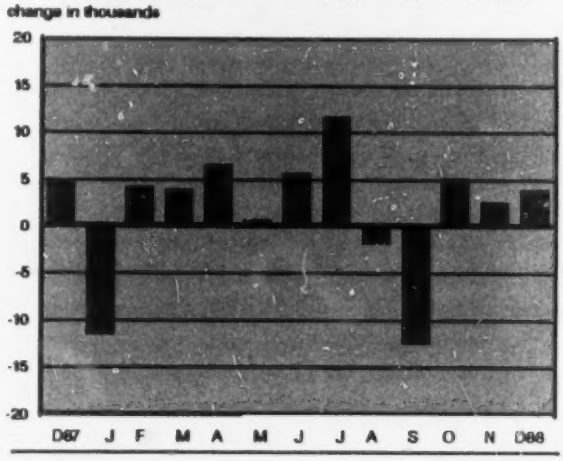
Over the year (December 1987 to December 1988), the Washington Area's labor force grew by 74,800 workers (3.5 percent). Ninety-nine percent of the new area workers were absorbed by the market. As a result, the Area's pool of unemployed workers increased by only 500, and the unemployment rate declined from 2.9 percent to 2.8 percent. However, the Area's supply of unemployed workers reflects a declining pool in the District (-4,700) and an increasing pool (+5,200) in the suburbs. Thus, over the year, the distribution of Area unemployment shifted significantly. In December 1987, nearly 32 percent of the unemployed lived in the District. Last December, only 24 percent were District residents. Still with only 15 percent of the Area's labor force, the District continues to contain more than an equal share of the region's unemployed. If the District had both 15 percent of the Area's labor force and 15 percent of the Area's unemployed, the level of unemployment in the District in December would have been about 9,400 rather than 15,000. Equity would require an employment shift of about 5,600 Area jobs to District residents, not a significant change (0.3 percent) in an economy that employs 2,164,900 workers.

Job Growth

The District

The number of jobs in the District increased by 4,000 for a gain of 0.6 percent between November and December. The private sector accounted for half of the growth with primarily seasonal gains in Services (1,100 jobs) and Retail Trade (800 jobs).

Monthly Job Growth
The District
December 1987 - December 1988



In the public sector, seasonal growth in Federal Government (1,800 jobs) and State and Local Government (300 jobs) produced a monthly job gain of 0.7 percent.

Over the year, (December 1987 to December 1988), the number of District jobs increased 2.8 percent for a gain of 18,800 jobs. The private sector accounted for 70 percent of the growth with a gain of 13,200 jobs and a 3.3 percent rate of growth.

The leading job producer, Services (11,500 jobs), was responsible for 87 percent of private job growth and 61 percent of all new jobs. The

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